

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

TOPIC Airfields in Czechoslovakia

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

29 December 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Cheb (N 51/P 37). Cheb airfield, located two or three kilometers east of town, was observed between March and May 1952. Several damaged buildings were not used. The airfield had a sodded surface and a concrete runway, 60 x 1,500 meters, probably at the eastern edge.<sup>1</sup> Except for occasional landings of small single-engine monoplanes with Czech emblems, there was no flying activity at the airfield.

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2. Around 15 May 1952, three large tents were erected at the western edge of the airfield. Three jet aircraft were observed at the field and repeatedly flying over Cheb. [ ] the members of the PS labor unit [ ] after the arrival of these aircraft had to continue their training outside of the airfield, the planes observed at the field were MiG-15s. [ ] the MiG-15s were stationed at the field to be utilized against foreign aircraft.<sup>2</sup>

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3. During August 1952, Czech jet aircraft cruised almost daily over the Silberbach/Hengstberg (M 51/P 17) border area. The aircraft generally kept strictly over Czech territory, but individual planes flew over German territory for up to 15 minutes.

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4. Through field glasses, it was observed that these aircraft took off two or three kilometers east of Cheb. [ ] the former German airfield of Cheb was no longer used, but [ ] a new landing field was constructed south of the Cheb-Karlsbad (N 51/P 69) road.<sup>1</sup> The planes observed were allegedly Czech jet aircraft of type "Poika-31" or Boika-31".<sup>3</sup>

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5. Liberec (Reichenberg) (O 51/G 16). The airfield of Liberec was observed prior to July 1952. There was no concrete runways or taxiways, and the landing field had a sodded surface. The airfield was utilized as a commercial airport and a training and military airfield. It was apparently of little importance because there was almost no flying during the winter months. Aircraft observed at the field generally included two or three commercial planes, two or three small sport planes, four military aircraft and several gliders.

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6. Ceske Budejovice (O 19/Q 96). [redacted] 25X1  
a runway, 50 x 3,000 meters with two taxiways 25 meters wide, was completed at Ceske Budejovice airfield by mid-August 1952. Five or six jet aircraft of Soviet origin were allegedly stationed at the field. They were repeatedly observed flying. Their wings had a very prominent sweep back. It was also said that there were several Soviet pilots at the field.<sup>4</sup>
7. Praha Podbaba (O 51/L 78). The Praha Podbaba air depot was located between the navigable canal and the railroad line which ran parallel to the canal, just at the hydrological and hydrotechnical institute. The depot covered an area of 150 to 250 x 300 meters and included nine single- and multi-story buildings. Air force supply was stored in several temporary buildings.
8. In April or May 1952, two radar sets arrived on trucks which were escorted by Soviet soldiers. Two weeks later, the radar sets were moved away by Czech soldiers who allegedly had come from Ceske Budejovice.<sup>2</sup> The radar sets were higher than standard light masts and were braced with steel ropes. The set was turned by a small electric motor at the foot of the direction finder. Electric power was supplied by a generator on a truck. When the set was tested, an aircraft was constantly flying over the depot. The radar set was apparently brand new and seemed to be of Soviet origin.<sup>5</sup>
1. [redacted] Comment. As most of the previous reports, the present report does not indicate which of the two airfields of Cheb was referred to. [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] Further information is required to confirm the construction of a new landing field. 25X1
2. [redacted] Comment. The observation of jet aircraft, probably MiG-15s, and of Soviet air force personnel in alert unit strength at Cheb, Ceske Budejovice and Dobruška airfields supports the assumption that the Russians have assumed control of the area near the Czechoslovakian - West German border. [redacted] further confirmation is the moving of the two radar sets, probably Dumbo type from Praha Podbaba to Ceske Budejovice. 25X1
3. [redacted] Comment. This type designation is reported for the first time. Efforts have been initiated to obtain clarification. 25X1
4. [redacted] Comment. According to a previous report [redacted] there was a runway, about 1,500 meters long, under construction. [redacted] 25X1  
With regard to the alert unit equipped with MiG-15s which presumably is stationed at the field, it seems credible that the field should have a runway with a length of 3,000 meters. 25X1
5. [redacted] Comment. The air force depot at Praha Podbaba is reported for the first time. 25X1

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